

Habitat Project Proposal

Proposal Title: Lisbon Bench Pipeline

Proposal Number: 1060

DWR Region: Southeastern Region

Lead Agency: NRCS

County: San Juan

Project Manager: Kyle Wheeler

PM Phone: 8015384952

Regional Priority: Within Focus Area

Project Type: Terrestrial Habitat

Proposed Start Date: 02/01/2008

Project Location: Travel South on Hwy 191 to LaSal Junction. Travel 20 miles east on HWY 46.

Project Description: Improve range conditions on by installing water system for better grazing management and wildlife water. Improve watershed health.

Description of Problem/Need: Hook and Ladder Cattle Company is seeking approval to put in a pipeline system to improve water distribution on the Lisbon Grazing Permit (#05388). It is the belief of Hook and Ladder Cattle Company and the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) that this pipeline is an excellent way to improve the conservation and proper use of our grazing resources by gaining greater control of when and where livestock and wildlife graze. By installing this small underground pipeline, most of which will be less than 3 inches in diameter, we will be able to relieve grazing pressure from specific areas that would benefit ecologically from reduced grazing on certain years by attracting the animals to watering troughs in other less used areas such as many of the high benches. This will also allow for less machinery use on the BLM property by essentially eliminating the need for water trucks and trailers hauling temporary water troughs. In some areas such as Island Mesa we are simply unable to access it with water hauling equipment during certain times of the grazing season. Because this area is poorly watered, cattle and wildlife will stay close to the water they can find and potentially over use those areas when there is ample grass just a few miles away on the Mesa. A pipeline like I am suggesting will go far to alleviate such potential problems and increase the overall health of the land. The NRCS has approved funding for the project! This is exciting, in that they see the value of adding this powerful grazing tool to our toolbox by putting funding behind it. In fact, we are committed to NRCS to keep accurate grazing records as a provision of their approving this project. We are to complete the pipeline to their strict guidelines and will be reimbursed for 50% of the cost after successful completion. We must begin installation as soon as possible to avoid losing the funding that makes this improvement project possible. The pipeline will cross our private lands, State lands and BLM lands. Water samples will be pulled on all wells prior to installation. Our desire is that this pipeline promotes a healthier range through superior grazing management while preserving archeological sites and improving cattle and wildlife health. Because this is a linear project in nature, if any archeological concerns arise, it is easy for us to simply avoid the area of concern by slightly changing the course of the pipeline. It is expected that in most cases we will be able to rip the small line into the earth without trenching or digging. This will allow for minimal temporary visual scarring and minimal ground disturbance. We will also minimize visual disturbance by moving watering areas away from roads and high traffic areas as much as possible. Potentially, the greatest tool this pipeline will provide is ultimate control over where good clean water is available. Each trough will be constructed with a valve that allows the tank to be filled or to remain empty depending on the needs of the land. As a multiple use agency I understand that often you have to weigh the benefits of each use such as energy production against the costs to the land and environment. This proposed pipeline requires no compromise but rather is a solution that will improve the health of the land.

Objectives: Improve rangeland health by gaining greater control over grazing patterns, thus protecting and improving the range. Eliminate water hauling thus improve profitability. Increase AUMs through better utilization of feed, increasing distribution more evenly across range.

Relevance to Strategic Plans: Much of the this project area is within the focus area for sage steppe restoration. This project will benefit mule deer, Gunnison Sage Grouse, Greater Sage Grouse, Elk and Gunnison Prairie dogs.

Potential Risks: None foreseen, this area has a lot of cultural resources but the areas can easily be avoided.

Proposed Methods: :Installing 39 miles of pipeline with minimal disturbance by ripping in the pipe. Installing 47 troughs. This will greatly increase distribution and help wildlife and livestock.

Shapefile Name: Lisbon Valley Pipeline

Seed Source:

UPCD Reg Team Coord Date: 12/04/2007

Proposed NEPA Action:

Proposed Arch Action:

☒ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☐ **Wildlife Monitoring**

Monitoring Details: Permittee will use Land EKG, BLM range data every third year

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Cons. Outreach Details: Project will be available for outreach

SPECIES BENEFITING

Greater Sage-grouse	Greater Sage-grouse	Mule Deer	Elk
Gunnison's Prairie-dog	Domestic Livestock		

LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
BLM	0
SITLA	0
Private	
Total	0

PROPOSED FUNDING

Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
EQIP	\$384,182.00	01/01/2007	\$384,182.00
GIP	\$36,244.00	01/01/2007	\$36,244.00
Private	\$126,245.00	01/01/2007	\$126,245.00
GIP	\$120,847.00		\$0.00
DNR Watershed (FY08)	\$120,847.00		\$0.00
Totals	\$788,365.00		\$546,671.00

PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	In Kind/ Partner Contrib.
Contractual Services	Install Pipeline, material	\$120,847.00	\$0.00
Contractual Services	Install Pipeline, material	\$0.00	\$384,182.00
Contractual Services	Install Pipeline, material	\$0.00	\$36,244.00
Contractual Services	Install Pipeline, material	\$0.00	\$120,847.00
Materials and Supplies	Install pipeline	\$0.00	\$126,245.00
Totals		\$120,847.00	\$667,518.00

Project Map:

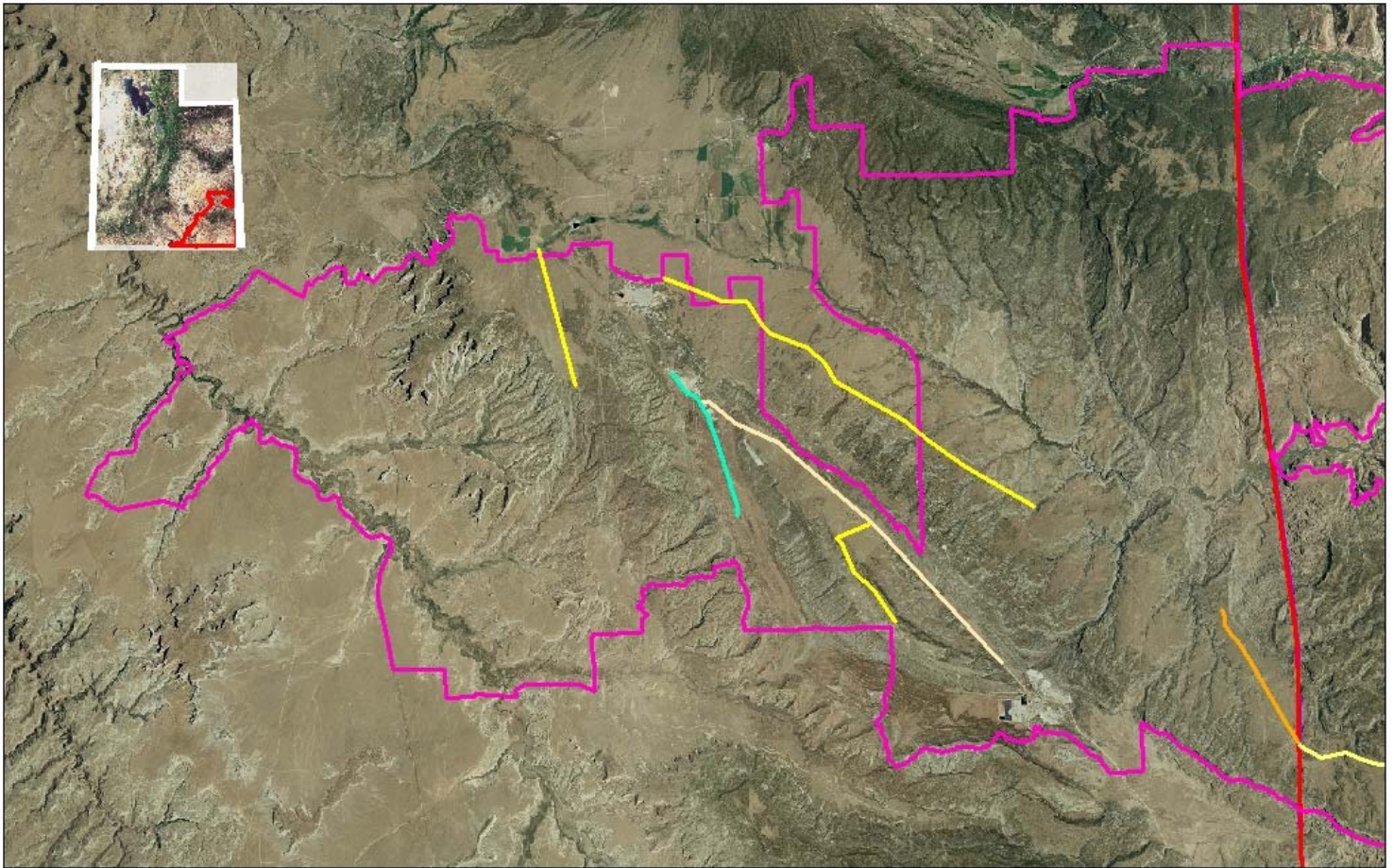
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1:166,477

Lisbon Bench Pipeline

San Juan County



0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles

davecook@utah.gov
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